

SHINING TIME STATION

EPISODE #15  
"PROMISES, PROMISES!"

SHOOTING SCRIPT

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c Quality Family Entertainment Inc., 1988

SCENE 1 (C)  
(MAINSET)

(ANGLE ON: MATT AND TANYA TAKING  
TURNS JUMPING ROPE. STACY IS IN WORKSHOP)

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR STANDS ON A PILE  
OF NAMEPLATES OF VARIOUS TOWNS [OR A  
LADDER], BRANDISHING A POINTER)

MR. C:

That's right -- the 6:23  
to Turley is now the 6:55  
to Leaky Park.

TANYA:

Mr. Conductor -- what  
about the 6:45 to  
Cloggyville?

MR. C:

Hmm ... the railroad main  
office hasn't given us any  
information about that one.  
But there's bound to be some  
sort of schedule change.  
Better just put up a question  
mark.

(HARRY AND STACY ENTER FROM WORKSHOP DOOR  
in conference)

STACY:

I'm very worried, Harry.

(MORE)

SCENE 1 (C) (CONTD)

STACY: (CONTD)

The railroad told us  
those repairs would be  
done in three days. It's  
been six days and they're  
still not finished.

HARRY:

The repair crews are doing  
the best they can. And  
folks have to travel safely.

STACY:

I know. But the main office  
gives us a new schedule  
practically every day. The  
Indian Valley Railroad seems  
to forget that a schedule is  
like a promise. If you promise  
to be here at 7:33 in the  
morning, we promise you can  
get on the northbound express  
to Pelican Falls. And a  
promise is a promise, whether  
it's made by a person or a  
railroad.

SCENE 1 (C) (CONTD)

HARRY:

Now remember, we're talk-  
ing about big machines,  
lots of people, the weather  
-- all sorts of things can  
go wrong.

STACY:

(SMILES; CONCEDES IT)

Maybe ... But we've got to  
come up with something to  
help our passengers.

(ANGLE ON: TICKET BOOTH. MR. CONDUCTOR  
NOW HOLDS THREE OR FOUR SHEETS AT ONCE,  
TRYING TO FIGURE OUT THE COMPLEX OF  
CHANGES)

MR. C:

Now just a moment ...

(RIFFLES THROUGH SHEETS)

Didn't we say that the 10:15  
to Logan Wash doesn't run on  
weekends?

MATT:

(AT BOARD; POINTS)

That's right. Here it is.



SCENE 1 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C:

I thought so. All right,  
then. We're finished for  
now. And about time. May I?

(HE DROPS THE PAPERS, JUMPS DOWN [IF  
POSSIBLE], AND PROCEEDS TO JUMP ROPE WITH  
the KIDS. AFTER A BIT OF THAT, HE TAKES  
A BREATHER)

MR. C: (CONTD)

That's better. Nothing  
like a spot of exercise.

MATT:

Do they have these kinds of  
schedule problems on the  
Island of Sodor?

MR. C:

I should say so. Why, just  
the other day, it seemed that  
everybody was late all the  
time. Well, here, I'll tell  
you about it --

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

SCENE 2 (T)

(VT: THOMAS EPISODE #41  
"BETTER LATE THAN NEVER")

SCENE 3 (C)  
(MAINSET)

(MR. CONDUCTOR AND KIDS AT TICKET  
BOOTH)

MR. C:

So you see, the bad news is  
that when one train is late,  
it can throw everybody off.  
But the good news is that  
Bertie kept his promise.  
And things did get back to  
normal again. I'm sure  
that's what will happen with  
the Indian Valley Railroad  
once they fix this scheduling  
problem.

(ANGLE ON: WORKSHOP. STACY LEANS OUT  
THE DOOR)

STACY:

Excuse me -- could everybody  
come over to Harry's workshop  
for a meeting?

MR. C:

Does "everybody" mean every-  
body, Stacy?

SCENE 3 (C) (CONTD)

STACY:

Well, it really means a  
few specially selected  
people.

(OFF HIS CRESTFALLEN TAKE)

But that includes you,  
Mr. Conductor. If you'd  
like.

MR. C:

I would be delighted.  
I'll be with you in a  
moment.

(THEY START TO REPLY, BUT MR. CONDUCTOR  
DISAPPEARS)

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR DISAPPEARS)

SCENE 4 (C)  
(HARRY'S WORKSHOP)

(HARRY IS WORKING ON A ROUGH, HAND-SKETCHED DIAGRAM OF THE LINE, IN HIS WORKSHOP)

HARRY:

And this becomes a local  
for Doodlehaven.

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR REAPPEARS WITH  
A POP, HOLDING A GAVEL)

(KIDS ENTER WITH STACY)

(MR. CONDUCTOR RAPS GAVEL. HARRY  
JUMPS)

MR. C:

This meeting is called to  
order.

HARRY:

I wish you'd warn me when  
you're going to do that.

MR. C:

Sorry, Harry. I'll try to  
remember.

(RE: MAP ON DESK)

Is that a track grid?

HARRY:

Sort of. It's my own sketch

(MORE)

SCENE 4 (C) (CONTD)

HARRY: (CONTD)

of the Indian Valley Railroad, with some new ideas for how to reschedule the trains.

STACY:

(HOLDS UP DIAGRAM)

This is what I wanted to show you. Harry and I think we've figured out a way to reschedule the main lines so that nobody has to be late. Plus we think it'll bring more business to the station.

MATT:

How can you do that?

HARRY:

It's tricky. Has to do with freight lines and sidings nobody uses. But we're sure it'll work.

SCENE 4 (C) (CONTD)

STACY:

So we want to go to the  
main office, and discuss it  
with Mr. J.B. King --

HARRY:

-- Esquire.

MR. C:

J.B. King? He's the super-  
intendent of the whole  
Indian Valley line. When  
are you going to see him?

STACY:

Right now, if possible. But  
we can't leave you two kids  
alone here ...

(MR. CONDUCTOR LOOKS RATHER PROUD OF  
HIMSELF)

MR. C:

They wouldn't be alone. I  
can manage the station quite  
well, thank you.

HARRY:

(GRUFF, BUT NOT MEAN)

You?! What are you gonna do --

(MORE)



SCENE 4 (C) (CONTD)

HARRY: (CONTD)

fly around and pop up in  
people's faces? That'd  
scare off all our passengers.

MR. C:

Harry, the only one who gets  
scared is you.

HARRY:

Suppose somebody had three  
or four real big pieces of  
luggage. How would you help  
carry 'em to the platform?

MR. C:

I wouldn't even try. I'd  
tell that person not to  
travel with so much. I never  
do. The most I ever carry on  
a trip is an extra handker-  
chief.

STACY:

Well, thanks anyway, Mr.  
Conductor. But I don't think  
you'd like running the station.

(MORE)

SCENE 4 (C) (CONTD)

STACY: (CONTD)

It would mean talking to a  
lot of strangers -- and  
you'd have to keep disappear-  
ing every time Schemer showed  
up. No, I think we need a  
regular-sized person to watch  
over things. Otherwise, I  
don't think we can go.

SCHEMER: (O.S.)

Did I hear a cry for help?

MR. C:

I wondered where he was today/  
Excuse me while I slip away.

(SPFX: HE DISAPPEARS)

SCENE 5  
(WORKSHOP)

(ANGLE ON: WORKSHOP DOORWAY.  
SCHEMER ENTERS)

SCHEMER:

Miss Jones, did I hear you  
correctly? You need someone  
to manage the station and  
keep a loving eye on these  
adorable tykes?

TANYA:

Schemer, how come all of a  
sudden you think we're so  
adorable?

STACY:

Just for the day, Schemer.  
Harry and I have to go to  
the main office. But --

(TRYING TO BE DIPLOMATIC)

-- I'm not sure it's the  
sort of thing you might  
like --

SCHEMER:

A common misconception.  
You think, "Schemer? The

(MORE)

SCENE 5 (CONTD)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

foremost entrepreneurial  
go-getter of our time? In  
a baby-sitting-type capacity?"  
But there's another side to  
me, Miss Jones.

HARRY:

What side would that be,  
Schemer?

SCHEMER:

The love side, Harry. The  
giving, caring, kissing and  
hugging side.

(HARRY SHAKES HIS HEAD IN AMAZEMENT.  
SCHEMER TURNS TO STACY)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

I would be delighted to run  
this place and take care of  
the kids while you're gone.  
I think ... I think I could  
learn something from the  
experience. I think we all  
could.

SCENE 5 (CONTD)

STACY:

I don't know ...

(SFX: TRAIN WHISTLE)

HARRY:

(INDICATING TRAIN)

10:35 express, Stacy.

Last train to the main  
office 'til tonight.

STACY:

Well ... if I did leave  
you in charge, Schemer, you  
would have to be sure to  
call the train dispatcher  
within the next half-hour  
and tell him that the signal  
on Track Number Two is  
broken. Have you got that,  
Schemer? It's very important.  
You mustn't forget.

SCHEMER:

Miss Jones, I would remember  
to do that so much, I can't  
even tell you.

SCENE 5 (CONTD)

STACY:

Well ... All right.

SCHEMER:

Oh, goody.

(STACY AND HARRY HUSTLE OUT WORKSHOP  
DOOR AND TOWARD PLATFORM, AS SCHEMER  
AND KIDS TRAIL)

SCENE 6  
(MAINSET)

(OUTSIDE HARRY'S DOOR)

STACY:

But promise me that all  
you're going to do is run  
the station and help the  
passengers.

SCHEMER:

I solemnly and completely  
promise.

STACY:

And you must absolutely  
not leave the station, or  
leave the kids alone.

Promise?

HARRY:

Promise, Schemer?

SCHEMER:

(ARMS AROUND THE KIDS)

A herd of wild wombats  
will not drive me from  
their side.

STACY:

Well ... all right, then.

(MORE)



SCENE 6 (CONTD)

STACY: (CONTD)

(KISSES KIDS)

Kids, have fun. Be good.

And Schemer -- thanks.

SCHEMER:

Thank you, Miss Jones.(HE BEAMS AND WAVES FAREWELL AS SHE AND  
HARRY WAVE FROM ARCH AND EXIT)

(SFX: TRAIN LEAVING STATION)

(SCHEMER IMMEDIATELY RESUMES HIS NORMAL  
SELF. HE CROSSES TO TICKET BOOTH  
UNDER)

SCHEMER:

All right. Matt, take down  
that Schedule Board. Tanya,  
throw a sheet over that junk  
in the Lost and Found.

TANYA:

Schemer -- !

SCHEMER:

Aha. Here it is.

(PUTS ON STACY'S STATION MASTER'S HAT)

Nice fit.

SCENE 6 (CONTD)

MATT:

Schemer, you can't wear  
that. It's Aunt Stacy's.

SCHEMER:

(CROSSING TO JUKEBOX WHERE HE INSERTS  
COIN)

Not today, hombre.

Schemerino's in charge  
now. Some music, perhaps?

To celebrate my promotion?

Yeah.

SCENE 7 (J)  
PART 1  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE AT THEIR INSTRUMENTS)

DIDI:

What promotion? They  
just left him in charge  
for one day.

GRACE:

He puts on Stacy's Station  
Master hat, and all of a  
sudden thinks he's a big  
shot.

TEX:

Well, puttin' on a nice  
hat'll do that to a man,  
Rex.

REX:

We oughta know, Tex.

TITO:

Hey, the tune is "Oh, Susannah."  
Let's just play it, man.

(INTO: PUPPET SONG: "OH, SUSANNAH")

SCENE 7 (J) (CONTD)

(PUPPET SONG: "OH, SUSANNAH")

(LYRICS TO COME)

SCENE 7 (J) (CONTD)

PART 2

(MAINSET)

(INTERCUT SONG WITH: KIDS RESISTING  
BUT BEING FORCED TO CARRY OUT SCHEMER'S  
ORDERS)

SCENE 8  
(MAINSET)

(RESUME: SCHEMER IS READY TO GO OUT)

SCHEMER:

Listen, kids, I have very  
important business matters  
to look into. I'll be back  
in a while. Stay out of  
trouble.

TANYA:

What are we supposed to do?  
Run the station?

SCHEMER:

Nah. Just go out back and  
dig up some worms to play  
with. Yeah -- that's a nice  
kid-type activity.

MATT:

You're not supposed to leave  
us alone. You promised  
Aunt Stacy.

TANYA:

And Grandpa, too.

SCHEMER:

I am not "leaving you alone.

(MORE)

SCENE 8

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

(SPEAKS TO MATT, POINTS TO TANYA)

You will be here with her --

(VICE-VERSA)

-- and you will be here  
with him. I never saw two  
such un-alone people in my  
life. Now get busy with  
those worms.

(HE EXITS TO STREET)



SCENE 9 (C)  
(MAINSET)

(ANGLE ON: ARCADE STEPS)

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS, PACING STEPS)

TANYA:

Worms!?

MATT:

Mr. Conductor, Schemer is  
breaking all his promises!

TANYA:

He said --

MR. C:

(HOLDING UP HIS HAND FOR CALM)

I know. I've been watching  
the whole thing. First  
he's changed things around,  
and now he's left you both  
alone.

TANYA:

And he told us to go dig  
worms!

MATT & TANYA:

YUCK!

SCENE 9 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C:

Well, now, Schemer is  
behaving badly. But while  
we're on the subject of  
worms, I know some rather  
special dancing worms.

MATT:

Come on, Mr. Conductor.  
Worms don't dance.

MR. C:

Maybe the ones you know  
don't dance. But as long  
as we're on our own for now,  
let me introduce you to the  
worms I know. Try looking  
down the Anything Tunnel.

(ANYTHING TUNNEL EFFECT)

SCENE 10 (AF)

(VT: "WORM DANCE")

SCENE 11 (C)  
(MAINSET)

(RESUME WITH KIDS AND MR. CONDUCTOR  
AT ARCADE STEPS)

MATT:

Gee, I guess even worms  
like to have fun.

MR. C:

In their own, worm-like  
way, yes.

(SPOTS SCHEMER ENTERING)

Oh, dear, here he comes.  
I wish I could stay and  
help you. But I just  
don't want that fellow  
to see me. If I ever have  
to talk to him, I don't  
know what I'll do.

TANYA:

We have to talk to him all  
the time.

MATT:

And today we have to do  
what he says!

SCENE 11 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C:

Listen, Matt and Tanya.  
Schemer may be a grownup.  
But you don't have to do  
something just because he  
says so. If you think it's  
wrong, then don't listen  
to him. And now I must  
fly! Good luck! Goodbye!

(SPFX: HE VANISHES)

SCENE 11A  
(MAINSET)

(SCHEMER ENTERS)

SCHEMER:

Hot dog ... Okay: kids.

I am really in charge here  
now. I am: The Boss.

(SFX: PHONE RINGS)

(SCHEMER CROSSES TO TICKET BOOTH TO  
ANSWER PHONE)

SCHEMER:

Go to Harry's office and  
play around with all that  
junk in there.

(KIDS HEAD-SHAKE "NO")

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Come on, kids. Trust me.  
I know what I'm doing.

(ANSWERS PHONE)

Yeah? What? How should I  
know? I never even heard of  
the place. Listen, I'm very  
busy here. I don't have  
time to talk about trains.

(HE HANGS UP. KIDS ARE AGHAST)

SCENE 11A (CONTD)

TANYA:

Schemer, that person wanted  
information about the trains!

SCHEMER:

What am I, the Encyclopedia  
Britannica? I have things  
to do.

TANYA:

One thing you have to do is  
call the train dispatcher.  
Remember what Stacy said?

SCHEMER:

Later. Later. First things  
first.

MATT:

Schemer, you're going to be  
in trouble when Aunt Stacy  
gets back!

SCHEMER:

Trouble? When she sees  
what I've done with this  
place, she'll give me a medal!

(KIDS REACT)

SCENE 12 (C)  
(WORKSHOP)

(THE KIDS SHUFFLE INTO WORKSHOP)

MATT:

I wish Aunt Stacy was  
here right now.

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS WEARING  
BREAST-PLATE, CARRYING HELMET)

MATT: (CONTD)

Mr. Conductor! You'd  
better be careful!

TANYA:

Schemer could come in and  
see you!

MR. C:

I know. But I'm ready to  
do battle to protect you  
kids. LET HIM COME!

(CATCHES HIMSELF)

But not just yet, please.

TANYA:

Mr. Conductor, Schemer says  
we should trust him. But  
I don't think we should.



SCENE 12 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C:

You don't know the half of  
it. I just heard what he's  
up to out there.

MATT:

Can't you stop him?

MR. C:

My magic can do many things,  
Matt. But it only works if  
you believe in it. And  
Schemer only believes in  
himself.

MATT:

(DESPONDENT)

You said it.

MR. C:

(TO CHEER HIM UP)

You know, all this trouble  
with Schemer reminds me of  
when Diesel first met the  
engines on the Island of  
Sodor. He immediately got

(MORE)

SCENE 12 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C: (CONTD)

off on the wrong foot.

Or the wrong wheel, anyway.

Let me explain --

(HE BLOWS WHISTLE)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)SCENE 13 (T)(THOMAS EPISODE #38 --  
"POP GOES THE DIESEL")

SCENE 14 (C)  
(WORKSHOP)

MR. C:

Diesel's a little like  
Schemer. He has his mind  
more on himself than on  
anything or anyone around  
him.

TANYA:

But what happened to Duck?  
Is he going to be okay?

MR. C:

I don't know yet. But I'm  
sure things will all work  
out in the end. With Duck  
-- and with Schemer.

SCHEMER (O.S.)

Okay, now put that over there  
-- NOT THERE, you dummy!  
That's for the other one ...  
Right. Good. Perfect.

(TOWARD WORKSHOP -- louder)

Okay! Kids! Come on out!

SCENE 14 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C:

Well, I'm pretty sure  
they'll work out. See  
you later.

(SPFX: HE DISAPPEARS)

(MATT AND TANYA TRADE A LOOK)

SCENE 15 (C)  
(MAINSET)

ANGLE ON: WORKSHOP DOOR -- KIDS  
EMERGE FROM WORKSHOP, AND REACT TO -- )

(MAIN SET IS FILLED WITH BIG COIN-  
OPERATED RIDES: HORSE, CAROUSEL, ETC.  
AT THE CENTER, SCHEMER IS BOSSING  
AROUND A STRAPPING MUSCLEMAN, TONY,  
WHO MOVES THE EQUIPMENT)

SCHEMER:

Kids -- meet Tony. Tony,  
Matt and Tanya.

(RE: SOME MACHINE)

Okay, let's move that one  
a little more to the left.

(AS TONY MOVES IT SLOWLY)

Hey, think you can get it  
there some time today, big  
guy?

TONY:

(A BEAT -- AMUSED)

Schemer, how much do you  
weigh?

SCHEMER:

(DEFIANTLY)

One hundred and forty-six  
pounds.

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

TONY:

(FLEXING MUSCLES)

I weigh a lot more than  
that, Schemer. Would you  
like me to show you?

(SCHEMER GETS THE MESSAGE)

SCHEMER:

Uh, no, thanks, Tony.  
You go ahead, just move  
the rides at your own pace.  
After all, they're yours,  
right? Heh heh ...

(ANGLE ON: TONY MOVES ONE OF THEM)

TONY:

Right. So don't mess around  
with them. We split the  
take. But I move 'em, and  
I take care of 'em. Got that?

SCHEMER:

Aw, come on, Tony. Don't you  
trust me?

TONY:

Schemer, just because I'm big

(MORE)

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

TONY: (CONTD)

doesn't mean I'm stupid.

(FINISHES MOVING)

A quarter a ride, kids.

Have fun. Later, Schemer.

(TONY EXITS)

(TANYA APPROACHES A RIDE)

TANYA:

Hey, this is neat.

MATT:

Tanya! They're messing  
up the station! They're  
going to be in everybody's  
way!

TANYA:

There's nobody here now,  
Matt.

(TO SCHEMER)

Can I ride one?

(SCHEMER BEAMS, GESTURES WELCOME)

SCHEMER:

Can you ride one? Little  
miss, be my guest!

(MORE)

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

(HOLDS HAND OUT)

Fifty cents.

TANYA:

Fifty? Tony just said it  
was a quarter!

SCHEMER:

(UNDAUNTED)

Right. A quarter for the  
ride, and another quarter  
for postage and handling.

MATT:

What postage?

TANYA:

And you didn't handle any-  
thing. Tony is the one who  
moved them.

SCHEMER:

Okay, okay. Grand Opening  
discount -- one quarter.

(TANYA SEARCHES POCKETS AND COMES UP  
EMPTY)



SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

TANYA:

I don't have a quarter.

(BEAT -- COYLY)

Do you?

SCHEMER IS INDIGNANT)

SCHEMER:

Schemer always has a quarter.

(PRODUCES IT, THEN TAKES IT AWAY)

But not for you, honey.

What kind of sucker do you

take me for?

(HE CLIMBS ABOARD A RIDE)

I shouldn't have to pay for

this. But I'll get half of

it back in the end anyway.

(PAUSES, DISMAYED)

But then I'm still out

twelve-and-a-half cents ...

(SNAPS FINGERS; INSERTS COIN)

I can write it off on my

taxes.

(THE RIDE SPRINGS TO LIFE, ROCKING HIM  
BACK AND FORTH. HE'S NOT CRAZY ABOUT  
IT, TRIES TO FAKE ENTHUSIASM)

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

Hey, this is really something. You kids like this sort of thing?

(THE MACHINE SUDDENLY STOPS)

TANYA:

Boy, that was short.

SCHEMER:

That's it? Ten seconds for twenty-five whole cents? This can't be right.

MATT:

Schemer, not only are you messing up the station with these rides, but they don't even work!

(SCHEMER DISMOUNTS AND STARTS TO EXIT)

SCHEMER:

I want to know what Tony has to say about this.

(STOPS SUDDENLY)

Of course, he's pretty big. Maybe I ought to just call

(MORE)

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

him on the phone.

(HE THINKS ABOUT IT, THEN STARTS OUT AGAIN)

No. I'm going to talk to  
him in person.

TANYA:

Why? Because it's the  
right thing to do?

SCHEMER:

Don't be silly. I want  
him to give me my quarter  
back.

(HE EXITS. MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS ON A BIKE OR BENCH)

MATT:

Mr. Conductor, what can we do?

MR. CONDUCTOR:

We can think! We must think!  
Come on. Here's my thinking  
cap --

(HE PRODUCES THINKING CAP, PUTS IT ON.

-- now let's think!

(OFF SFX: TRAIN WHISTLE)

SCENE 15 (C) (CONTD)

MR. C: (CONTD)

Uh-oh. Passengers. I  
can't think!

STACY: (O.S.)

Matt! Tanya! We're back!

This way, Mr. King --

KING: (O.S.)

I know the layout of a  
train station, Miss Jones.

MR. C:

Oh no! Mr. J.B. King, Esquire!

And I'm not wearing my  
conductor's hat! See you  
later, kids!

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR VANISHES)

SCENE 16  
(MAINSET)

(ANGLE ON: PLATFORM ARCH: STACY,  
HARRY, AND MR. KING APPEAR. KING IS  
ALREADY ANGRY, DOESN'T SEE RIDES AT  
FIRST)

KING:

I'm a busy man, Miss Jones.  
I don't like being kept on  
a siding all day because  
somebody here didn't call  
the train dispatcher.

STACY:

I know, sir. But in order  
to meet with you, we left  
someone in charge of the  
station --

(THEY ENTER FULLY. STACY SEES THE RIDES  
AND STOPS, IN SHOCK. KING SEES THE  
KIDS)

KING:

It appears you left two  
children in charge of the  
station, Miss Jones.

STACY:

No. We left someone else  
in charge.

(MORE)

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

STACY: (CONTD)

(TO KIDS)

Where's Schemer?

MATT:

Aunt Stacy! Schemer  
brought in all this stuff!

TANYA:

And now they don't even  
work!

(KING NOTICES RIDES FOR THE FIRST TIME)

KING:

And what is all this? Are  
you proposing to turn Shining  
Time Station into a fun house?

(BEFORE STACY CAN ANSWER, SCHEMER ENTERS  
BRISKLY)

SCHEMER:

Ah, Sir? Don't mess with  
that, please?

(HE DASHES OVER AND FORCIBLY STEERS  
KING AWAY FROM RIDE)

KING:

I beg your pardon?

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

SCHEMER:

Slight malfunction, Chief.  
Gotta wait for my main-  
tenance crew to fix 'em up.

KING:

"Chief"? Do you know who  
I am?

SCHEMER:

I don't have to know, pal.  
You're a passenger waiting  
for a train, and that's good  
enough for me. Say, as long  
as the rides don't work, why  
don't you drop a few coins  
in the Arcade over here? I  
got a real nice jukebox --

(KING SHAKES FREE OF SCHEMER AND ADDRESSES  
STACY AND HARRY)

KING:

Miss Jones, Mr. Cooper --  
ever since I put you in  
charge of this station, we  
have increased the number of

(MORE)

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

KING: (CONTD)

trains that stop here, and  
have given you more and  
more responsibility. I can  
see now that that was a  
mistake. Leaving children  
in charge, filling this  
place with cheap carnival  
rides --

SCHEMER:

Cheap! These things cost  
a quarter, bud!

KING:

(TO SCHEMER; COLDLY)

Excuse me, Sir.

(BACK TO STACY AND HARRY)

You have gone too far.  
Therefore, effective  
immediately, I am reducing  
the number of trains that  
stop here, and cutting back  
your operations. From now

(MORE)



SCENE 16 (CONTD)

KING: (CONTD)

on this station will handle  
secondary branch line  
traffic, and nothing more.  
Please remove all of this  
equipment at once. Good day.

(HE EXITS)

SCHEMER:

Boy, who does he think he is?

HARRY:

He's J.B. King, Schemer.  
The superintendent of the  
whole railroad.

SCHEMER:

(NOT VERY DISMAYED)

Yikes! Open mouth, insert  
foot!

STACY:

(COLLECTS HERSELF BEFORE DELIVERING)

Schemer, I must tell you  
that it is inexcusable that  
you left the kids alone here.  
Especially after you promised  
not to.

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

SCHEMER:

Okay -- guilty as charged.  
But look at this set-up!  
Once these babies work,  
we'll be doing business like  
crazy!

(TONY ENTERS WITH SHEETS FROM PLATFORM)

TONY:

Hey, Schemer.

SCHEMER:

(TO STACY, RE: TONY)

My mechanic.

(GOES OVER TO HIM)

Yeah, Tony. Ready to fix  
'em up?

(TONY CROSSES TO RIDES AND DRAPES SHEETS  
OVER THEM)

TONY:

Forget it. I changed my  
mind. I'm gonna put these  
rides in the new shopping  
mall. There's more business.  
I'll be back with the truck

(MORE)

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

TONY: (CONTD)

tomorrow to take 'em away.

(NODS TO THE OTHERS; THEN, TO SCHEMER)

See you around, Schemer.

(HE EXITS)

SCHEMER:

How do you like that guy!

Where are we gonna find

some more rides like this?

STACY:

We aren't. Schemer, not  
only did you leave the kids  
alone, but you forgot to  
tell the train dispatcher  
about the broken signal. So  
Mr. King was stuck on a siding,  
along with us, for an hour.  
Then you filled up the station  
with all this junk. You broke  
every one of your promises!

(STACY GLUMLY WALKS AWAY FROM THE OTHERS,  
MUSING OUT LOUD)

Now Harry and I could get  
fired. We could lose the  
station completely.

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

MATT:

Will they really do that,  
Aunt Stacy?

STACY:

They could, Matt. They'll  
probably want to wait and  
see how we do.

SCHEMER:

(PHONY MEEK)

If they did take the  
station away from you guys,  
what would they do with it?

HARRY:

Shut it down and sell it,  
probably. Why? You want  
to turn it into one big  
Arcade, Schemer?

SCHEMER:

(STILL MEEK)

Oh, I couldn't do that,  
Harry. Tony is going to  
take back all the rides.

(MORE)

SCENE 16 (CONTD)

SCHEMER: (CONTD)

(BRIGHT, CHEERY)

I'll think of something  
else. Progress is every-  
thing! Time marches on!  
The only thing that stands  
still is ...

(HE STOPS, AT A LOSS. THEN -- )

I don't know. Trees, or  
something. Who cares.

(HE EXITS TO STREET, JAUNTIER THAN EVER)

SCENE 17 (C)  
(MAINSET)

(KIDS SIT ON ARCADE STEP, STACY AND  
HARRY STAND AT INFO DESK.

(SPFX: MR. CONDUCTOR APPEARS ON DESK,  
DEJECTED. HE STUDIES HIS BATH PLUG.

MR. C:

Maybe you can explain to  
Mr. King about Schemer.

STACY:

He'd say we should have  
known better than to leave  
someone like Schemer in  
charge. And he'd be right.

(BEAT)

And I tried to make this  
place special. I wanted to  
do something that everyone  
could be proud of.

HARRY:

Well, you did.

(OFF HER WAN SMILE -- )

SCENE 18 (J)  
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE VISIBLY UPSET)

DIDI:

Gee -- if they went, would  
we have to go, too?

GRACE:

Depends. We go where the  
jukebox goes. And the box  
belongs to Schemer.

TITO:

But he's such a weird cat,  
man.

REX:

Do people in health clubs  
like railroad songs, Tex?

TEX:

I don't think so, Rex.

REX:

(BEAT)

Gosh.

SCENE 19  
(MAINSET)

(RESUME MAIN SET -- ALL ARE RESIGNED)

(ANGLE ON: STACY. SHE IS ABOUT TO FALL  
INTO A SIMILAR DESPONDENCY -- BUT  
CATCHES HERSELF)

STACY:

Now wait a minute, every-  
body. We can't just give up.  
This wasn't our fault, and  
we're going to do the best  
we can to show the railroad  
we can run a first-rate  
station.

(SHE LEAPS UP, CLAPS HER HANDS, MOTIONS  
TOWARD RIDES)

We'll start by moving these.

MATT:

What for? Tony said he'd  
pick them up tomorrow.

STACY:

But they're in the way right  
now. Let's go.

(NO ONE MOVES. THEN -- )



SCENE 19 (CONTD)

HARRY:

She's right. There's no  
sense in just moping.

Let's get busy.

(ALL GATHER AROUND A BIG, OBVIOUSLY  
HEAVY RIDE, AND START PUSHING. IT  
BARELY BUDGES, BUT THEY KEEP TRYING)

(SUPER: TO BE CONTINUED)

(CREDITS)

(FADE)